

participation by citizens, interest groups, news media, and other interested parties. Meeting notices will also be posted on bulletin boards and information desks where appropriate. Efforts will be made to attend civic club meetings and the like to further expose the planning process to the public.

## **G. Natural Hazards Planning**

### **1. Introduction**

The Division of Coastal Management encourages local governments to focus on three phases of natural hazards planning. These include storm hazard mitigation, post disaster recovery, and evacuation plans.

The Town, in 1996, prepared a Storm Hazard Mitigation and Post Disaster Reconstruction Plan to incorporate the required issue areas and to accurately portray and set forth the duties and responsibilities of the Town, Dare County, and those agencies and personnel called upon in time of emergency. The executive summary from the plan is included as APPENDIX 3.

### **2. Storm Hazard Mitigation**

#### BACKGROUND

Storm hazards are far more serious than commonly perceived. The series of tornadoes which struck eastern North Carolina in March of 1984 and publicity surrounding the devastation caused by Hurricane Hugo in 1989 and Hurricane Andrew in 1992, have increased awareness of the need for storm hazard mitigation and natural hazards planning.

There are numerous natural hazards and many are likely to occur in Kill Devil Hills. These include:

- ! flooding and erosion;
- ! high winds (hurricanes and northeasters);
- ! tornadoes; and,
- ! snow and ice storms.

Of particular importance to Outer Banks localities' land use planning are storms and their resultant erosion, flooding, and high winds. In order to effectively plan for such hazards, a comprehensive approach is necessary.